

Welcome to The Star Press Muncie, IN

Customer Service: [Subscribe Now](#) |[thestarpress.com](#) [Weather](#) [Jobs](#) [Cars](#) [Homes](#) [Apartments](#) [Shopping](#) [Classifieds](#) [Da](#)Search Muncie: » [Home](#)» [News](#)[Local News](#)[Photo Galleries](#)[Multimedia](#)[Archives](#)[Obituaries](#)[Towns Daily](#)[Preps Sports](#)[Sports](#)[Opinion](#)[Blogs](#)[Business](#)[Forums](#)[Life](#)[Savvy](#)[Special Occasions](#)[Movie Listings](#)[Entertainment](#)[ECI Sunday](#)[Neighborhoods](#)[Nation/World](#)[Technology](#)[Travel](#)[Weather](#)» [RSS Feeds](#) [XML](#)» [Text Alerts](#) [TEXTME](#)» [Communities](#)» [Customer Service](#)

▼ ADVERTISEMENT ▼



▼ ADVERTISEMENT ▼

Dear Advertiser:

Some websites offer searching.
We offer search parties.

Upgraded
 online searching lets
 customers find you fast

Delta students proving gallon of gas can go a long Delta whizzes hope their entries in a statewide contest will get more th year's car achieved.

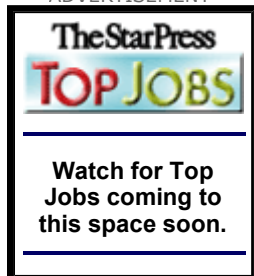
By MICHAEL McBRIDE
 mmcbride@muncie.gannett.com

STORYCHAT: 1 [Comment](#)

Students in a Delta High School technology education class have high-mileage hopes for the school's third-straight entry in the Indiana Mathematics, Science and Technology Education Alliance Super Mileage Challenge.

"We plan on two cars this year, and that is a lot of work," said Dan Buis, a senior who opted to enroll in Randy Glaze's transportation class for the second straight year. "Most classes, you learn from a text. Here, you take a real-world problem and go out and solve it."

▼ ADVERTISEMENT ▼



Delta's 2005 vehicle achieved 491 miles per gallon.

Last year's single-seat creation squeezed 654 miles from a gallon of gas, but still finished second to a vehicle built by students at Evansville Mater Dei High School -- winners of the past three IMSTEAs events, whose 2006 creation topped 1,200 mpg.

"Me and Luke are in the stock class, so we have to start a car from scratch," said Phil Hinds, a senior and the second of 10 students who re-enrolled for a second year. "We came up with lots of ideas during the first semester, and now we will narrow them down."

Lucas Shideler, also a senior, said students must complete year-long design-process and computer designed-production classes before being considered for an invitation-only slot in the car-building class.

"This is a class that I look forward to," said Shideler, a senior taking the class for the first time. "We have more freedom, but also more responsibilities.

"We know what we need to do; we just have to do it."

A sophomore, John Holladay said last semester's work led to a proposal -- and that coming up with a viable proposal was as much a part of the



Kyle Evens /

Dan Buis has
 car that Delta
 competition.



Kyle Evens /

Delta High Sc



competition as building the car.

Craig Winningham
of their 2007

"The unlimited class is rebuilding last year's car, and they think that they can do better," Holladay said. "I am interested in CAD [computer-assisted design], physics and engineering -- so this is right up my alley."

Related n

Latest head
• Education

Powered by

Students building for the stock competition must use an unmodified 3.5-horsepower Briggs lawnmower engine to power their designs. Students participating in an unlimited class -- for the first time ever this year at Delta -- may alter the power plants.

"Our final design is a combination of ideas, and everybody brought something to the table," said Zach Welch, a senior participating for the first time. "We have to calculate the anticipated rolling friction, plus cornering forces.

"Preparing an estimate of the mileage we expect to achieve is a big part of the competition."

Glaze said he depended on advice from Bud Keller, a robotist at Littler Diecast.

"We came over back in the eighth grade, and I was very interested," said Josh Dyke, a junior who credits an architect grandfather for piquing his interest in design. "It is a hands-on thing, designing and working together; it is fun, and a lot different."

The new design's strength depends on an untested half-inch thick, honeycombed aluminum slab -- which is planned to replace last year's more conventional tubular framework.

"Last year's car weighed 60 pounds," Glaze said. "We plan to take off half of that weight."

The body will be shaped like a tear drop, with the plump side at the front.

"Students have to be selected to be in the class, and it is based on their performances in other classes," said senior Alex Kluge. "I like the engineering aspect of it.

"And I like to understand how things work."

Kluge said the class was a great foundation for an engineering major in college, or even a career.

"I like to draw; I am an artistic person, so it would not bother me to be in this field in the future," said Antonio Altamirano, a junior. "I like architecture and the designing processes, and I can earn college credit."

A senior, Craig Winningham has been in charge of tracking expenses and raising funds.

"So far, we have \$2,000, but we need \$3,000," Winningham said. "We don't have to double last year's [budget], because one car is already built.

"For that car, most of the actual work has to do with the engine -- but there are a lot of costs in that aspect of the project."

Contact towns reporter Michael McBride at 213-5826.

STORYCHAT

 [Post a Comment](#)  [View All Comments](#)

"This sounds like a fascinating competition! I would love to learn of an open house or other opportunity to view Delta's finished products and even see them work!"

HI I just wanted to let you know that you may see the Delta team as well as all of the other teams from across the state on APRIL 30, 2007 at Indianapolis Raceway Park. Admission is free.

Feel free to contact me at 317-232-6990 or at mfitzger@doe.state.in.us if you would like to learn more about this exciting student event that promotes the study of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. -mfitz

Posted: Tue Jan 16, 2007 8:01 am

This sounds like a fascinating competition! I would love to learn of an open house or other opportunity to view Delta's finished products and even see them work!

Posted: Fri Jan 12, 2007 2:56 pm

 [Post a Comment](#)  [View All Comments](#)

Originally published January 12, 2007



Print this article



Email this to a friend



Subscribe Now

Gannett Indiana online network: Indianapolis | Fishers | Lafayette | Marion | | Noblesville | Rich

Contact Us | Subscribe | Place an ad

Copyright ©2007 The Star Press.

All rights reserved.

Users of this site agree to the
Terms of Service and Privacy Policy
(Terms updated 7/20/05)

